

California **GARDEN**

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

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HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

- Nov. 3 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** Three Ring Basket Class
Casa del Prado Rm 105, Balboa Park. Martha Rosenberg, instructor. Materials furnished. 9:30-3 p.m. Class limited. \$20 member, \$25 nonmember. Registration/information: 232-5762/298-5182.
- Nov. 3 **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS** Free Children's Tour
230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas. Ages 3 to 6. Meet at Visitor's Center 10:30 a.m. \$1 parking. Call 436-3036.
- Nov. 3-
Jan. 17 **J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM** 16th Century Manuscript with Botanical Illumination
17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu. "Mira calligraphiae monumenta" Art and Science: Joris Hoefnagel and the Representation of Nature in the Renaissance.
- Nov. 5-8 **THE HUNTINGTON** Fall Plant Festival
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. Lectures and plant sale. Daily 1-4:30 p.m. Admission free, suggested donation \$5 adult, \$3 child. Call 818/405-2141.
- Nov. 7 **RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANICAL GARDENS** Annual Plant Sale
1500 North College Avenue, Claremont. California native plants and drought-tolerant plants. Hours 8-2 p.m. Call 714/625-8767.
- Nov. 7-8 **DESCANSO GARDENS** Japanese Flower Arrangement Show
1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Ikebana Demonstrations. Sat. 2 p.m. Sun. 11 & 2 p.m.
- Nov. 10 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** Fern or Ivy Basket Class
Casa del Prado Rm 105, Balboa Park. Kathy Walsh, instructor. Materials furnished. 9:30-3 p.m. Class limited. \$10 member, \$15 nonmember. Registration/information 232-5762/298-5182.
- Nov. 14 **SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN** Holiday Program
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes. How to decorate the home & garden for holidays. 10-4 p.m.; Fee \$3. Call 213/544-6815.
- Nov. 14 **LOS ANGELES STATE & COUNTY ARBORETUM** Landscaping Symposium
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. "The English Look for Southern California Gardens". Bob Smaus, J. Wigand, R. Fletcher & C. Rosmini panel. 9-4 p.m. Fee \$50 includes lunch. Call 818/821-3222.
- Nov. 14 **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC.** Lecture/Slide Presentation
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Plants native to Australia's mediterranean type climate. Ecke Bldg. 11 a.m. Parking \$1. Call 436-3036.
- Nov. 14 **SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDENS** Landscape Techniques Seminar
1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara. Experts discuss techniques in soil analysis, composting and green waste. Blakley Library 8-5 p.m. Fee information & registration 805/563-2521.
- Nov. 17 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** Heavy Reed & Flax Basket (Details: see Nov. 3 SDFA)
- Nov. 20-
Apr. 25 **THE HUNTINGTON** Environmental Photographs
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. "Legacy of the Wilderness" Robert Glenn Ketchum. 818/405-2141.
- Nov. 21-22 **DESCANSO GARDENS** Holiday Show
1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Floral and table arrangements. 9-4:30 p.m. Fee \$3. 818/952-4401.
- Nov. 21-22 **ENCINITAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** 1992 Encinitas Flower Tour
Leave from Encinitas Visitors Center, Moonlight Plaza 345-H First St. Sat & Sun. 9; 10:45; 12:30 and 2:15 tours. Fee \$12.50. Call 633-4802.
- Nov. 22 **SUMI-E PAINTING & IKEBANA** 17th Annual Show
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sun. 11-4 p.m.
- Nov. 24 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** Pine Needle Basket or Garlic Basket Class
\$10 member, \$15 nonmember. (Details: see Nov. 3 SDFA)
- Dec. 1 **LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB** Holiday Tea, Bazaar and Program
La Jolla Woman's Club, 715 Silverado St. Pat Welsh "Color in the Garden" \$7.50; 12:30-3:30 p.m. 454-4109.
- Dec. 1 **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS** Free Children's Tour (Details: see Nov. 3 Quail)
- Dec. 3 **THE HUNTINGTON** First Thursday Garden Talk and Sale "A Christmas Garden"
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. Slide lecture by Kathy Musial, curator of living collections, sale will follow talk. Free, suggested donation. 2:30 p.m. Call 818/405-2141.
- Dec. 4 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** "Christmas a Floral Fantasy" Preview
Casa del Prado Rm 101, Balboa Park. Preview tea exclusive for members and friends only. 3-5 p.m. Reservations 232-5762.
- Dec. 4-5 **♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣** "Christmas a Floral Fantasy"
Casa del Prado Rm 101, Balboa Park. SDFA Christmas on the Prado show. Fri. 5-9 p.m.; Sat. 12-9 p.m.

(Continued on page 182)



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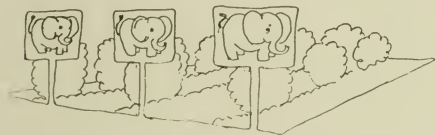
FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your next show.

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The Western Political Gardener

Don Miller

IF IT IS APPROPRIATE that we can place everyone in this country into either the Democratic or Republican party, then the gardeners of our world can also be placed into one of these categories. Of course, it will be necessary to define these parameters so that we each can recognize where we belong. If a Democrat is a liberal and a Republican is a conservative we will have to find methods, plants and — oh yes — fertilizers which also fit into these descriptions.



Ellen Gillis

CONSERVATIVE?

Let's say that a conservative gardener carefully lays out the plot, defines where every plant will go and forever more never deviates from that plan — come high water or just trickle down.

Which plan will this gardener choose? Probably an old reliable tomato~~x~~ such as Beefsteak or Rutgers — good eastern varieties without all of those strange letters after their name such as VFNT. What does that mean anyway — Vigorous Form No Taste? And for beets the only choice is Detroit Red. Detroit got us where we are today so let's back it all the way. None of these strange new veggies — even if they are ichiban.



Ellen Gillis

LIBERAL?

So let's give some thought to the Democratic diggers in the garden to see where they fit in. Will the liberal not be concerned with the plan or form of the garden but just scatter his seeds and let them fall where they may? (I've heard that can be very satisfying and produces a good crop — although it might cause the neighbors to adversely

comment on one's lack of discretion should the seeds get into an adjacent ground.) The plot thickens.

As to the choice of plants, surely the liberal will want the most integrated, diverse group of plants available. That helps keep those crop-specific intruders in check, especially *Ostrinia nubilalis*, the European cornborer. (Haven't we already done enough to support those Europeans without putting up with their pests?)

So select some fast growing, high producing crops which will grow under most conditions even though they might require maximum day-care.

Lettuce come together, cross our Democratic and Republican jeans, sew our semillas¹ and see if the effort bears fruit.

Oh my — the fertilizer. Perhaps the most important ingredient of all. What to use that will satisfy us all. Should we keep it organic or go pure chemical? Not an easy decision these days. High nitrogen will give rapid growth, on the other hand, the trace elements provide long term good health.

This is a major decision which we need to resolve before the fall planting season is upon us. Not that there won't be an abundant supply available between now and when it's time to choose — but which type is best. If we had started a little earlier it would have been possible to Peroto-till it into the soil. But it is too late now.

First, and foremost, don't use the fresh organic type (unless it's chicken) because it must be well composted before it loses its harmful qualities. Some fast acting variety is needed for a quick start and then a slow-release product to be used later.

Well!! That takes care of that, whoever heard of a Democratic or Republican gardener coming up with a slow-release batch of fertilizer.

¹ Spanish for seeds.

DON MILLER is a Master Gardener with the UC Cooperative Extension and a docent at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas.

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THE YULETIDE CACTUS

Catherine L. Zinsky

ONCE UPON A TIME the very popular Christmas cactus bore the scientific name *Zygocactus truncatus*. No more. Today taxonomists recognize this same plant as nothing less than *Schlumbergera Bridgesii*. I've reached the conclusion that these same taxonomists do this on purpose, their rule of thumb being that if it's possible to pronounce the original name, then it must be changed. So to avoid satisfying their sadistic nature, I shall henceforth refer to this particular species solely as the Christmas cactus.

First and foremost it must be realized that the Christmas cactus truly is a cactus, yet one somewhat uncharacteristic in that it does not do well beneath our intense sun. In point of fact the plant will burn, shrivel, and die if left in the sun too long. Its natural habitat is the Brazilian jungle, where it thrives clinging to trees, making it quite adaptable as a container plant in cultivation.

So why, you ask, is it a cactus?

In order to best explain this it is first important to examine the plant itself. The Christmas cactus is built up of short, flat, thin joints which generally hang down in an umbrella shape. These joints are spineless and glossy green. Upon closer scrutiny it is possible to find the areoles, or spine-cushions within the margins of these joints. Fine hairs that are barbed at the ends (glochids) are present on these areoles, and it is the presence of these areoles that most qualifies this Christmas treasure as being a cactus.

Another distinctive characteristic common to the family *Cactaceae* is its fruit, which in cacti is a one-celled berry enclosing the seeds. (For contrast think of a grapefruit, which is divided or partitioned into sections.) Within the berry are many seeds suspended in a jelly-like substance that provides nourishment for the seeds until germination occurs.

So despite its jungle habitat and need for shelter from the sun, the Christmas cactus is indeed a true cactus.

The Christmas cactus is an epiphyte as well. An epiphyte is a plant that in nature grows on another plant (in this case, the tree) for support, but receives no nourishment from the host plant. All nourishment comes from the air, rainwater, dust, fallen debris, and the like. In cultivation it must be fed regularly and often. Every seven to ten days is recommended in *Sunset Western Garden Book*.

Clinging to a tree, water will not accumulate. To simulate such conditions in a container, a rich but porous soil is necessary. This soil must never be permitted to become soggy, or you will surely lose this lovely plant to rot. A suitable soil in which to grow your Christmas



Photo by Betty Newton

cactus is three parts leaf mold, one part loam, and one part sand for drainage.

In order to stimulate bloom, longer nights (darkness) is required. This includes all incidental light, even that lamp it rests beneath in the living room. Buds are initiated when daylight does not exceed eleven hours, so if your plant is getting more, shield it or move it until the blooms are open, then return it to an attractive spot where it can be enjoyed and admired throughout its bloom cycle. Do not move your plant once the flower buds appear, however, these buds are extremely delicate and could drop off should you move or even turn it.

The flowers themselves are many-petaled, tubular, and long — up to three inches! The most common bloom color is fuchsia, but hybridizers have performed their magic with this species, and today the color spectrum is much broader, ranging from white to salmon to orchid.

Reproduction from cuttings is easy. This should be done in the spring during the plant's greatest period of growth. Remember, the larger the cutting, the sooner you'll have a flowering specimen, though it is quite possible to eventually develop a large flowering plant from a singular joint. If you are in no hurry, and one joint is all your neighbor is willing to surrender, by all means cultivate it.

When taking a cutting, make a clean cut with a sharp knife or razor blade. It is recommended the cut end be dusted with a fungicide, though to be frank, I have never

done this and have still had success. It is imperative, however, that the cutting be allowed to harden. All this involves is allowing the cutting to dry for a couple days so that the cut surface can form a callus. This step is necessary to prevent decay.

Plant the cutting in a mix of equal parts fine sand and sifted peat, inserting the base of the cutting into the mixture only enough to just penetrate the soil surface. Water sparingly — less is better than too much.

Once the cuttings have developed roots, transplant them into the prescribed potting mixture given earlier. A sprinkling of bone meal will give your new plant a healthy boost, and perhaps by the following Christmas, your cactus will flower as well.

After the blooms are spent, pamper your specimen by allowing it to rest for at least six weeks, during which time water only to prevent the soil from drying out completely.

Christmas cacti are easy plants to cultivate, and a gracious alternative to the much loved poinsettia. Used as a centerpiece or just standing alone, your Christmas cactus will make an elegant contribution to your holiday decor.

They can be found at most nurseries, where you'll be able to choose first hand the perfect bloom color to best suit your needs. Happy Holidays!

CATHERINE L. ZINSKY is an avid gardener and horticulture writer who gardens in Crest.

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Snowflake tree (*Trevesia palmata*)

Lucy Warren

SNOWFLAKE TREE

Tineke Wilders

WHAT COULD BE more appropriate than to feature the 'snowflake tree' (*Trevesia palmata*) during the winter months of November and December? Like many of the plants which are green all year long this lovely exotic comes from a more tropical area and is native to the area around India to the Malay Peninsula and Polynesia.

This schefflera and *Fatsia japonica* look-alike has an interesting leaf pattern. Its large deeply-cut leaves of up to two feet across not only resemble the imprint of enormous snowflakes, but also the webbed feet of giant ducks.

This plant makes a handsome tub plant on a patio that is protected from the hot sun or in a lath house. An eastern exposure would be ideal. It also makes a great houseplant, a dramatic accent in a house, apartment or condo. But its dark leaves need light, so place it in the brightest spot in your home.

Soil should be well-draining although the *Trevesia palmata* likes the soil to be kept slightly moist. Regular feedings are a must (20-20-20 NPK will be fine).

Watch out for spider mites and mealybugs. If you suspect infestations, spray with insecticidal soap.

The snowflake tree is not a very common plant and you may have to do some phoning around to the plant nurseries to see who carries it or who may be able to order one for you. But once you have one, you are going to enjoy this small tree, whether you grow it in a container or directly in the ground, where it can grow up to 20 feet tall.

TINEKE WILDERS is a free lance garden writer who specializes in container plants.

HAWAIIAN SNOWBUSH

Marge Howard-Jones

ITS UNLIKELY NAME suggests something that might melt away in the tropical sunshine, but *Breynia nívosa* (also identified as *Breynia disticha*), the Hawaiian snowbush, is a tough survivor. A native of the South Pacific, this member of the *Euphorbia* family will mature to become a handsome 3-4' shrub, shimmering with small oval leaves whose red, green and white patterns reflect the filtered sunlight in which it is most content.



Hawaiian Snowbush, *Breynia nívosa*

Ellen Gillis

Long used as a hedge plant in Hawaii, the snowbush has become a popular landscape feature in regions where the temperature rarely gets below 50°F. It thrives in sheltered locations, although once well established in a large container, can be equally impressive in full sun. Regular watering and fertilizing will keep its arching branches abundant with new pink leaves and tiny ¼" flowers. Indoors, the *Breynia* likes to be near bright windows, with perhaps a pebble tray beneath it to maintain humidity. Wilting and dropping leaves can mean too much or not enough water. In winter, a little rest in a sheltered area will tide it over until spring. If it still looks a bit forlorn, a good pruning will get it back to its glorious old self.

Breynias can be easily propagated by green wood cuttings and by roots. The unusual leaf coloration is determined by the amount of sunlight they receive: the more sun, the redder they get. The lighter green and white marbling that a shadier location produces may be the inspiration for its common name. Its horticultural name honors J. P. Breyn, a 17th century German botanist.

According to *Hortus Third*, there are from 20 to 33 *Breynia* varieties. The snowbush has naturalized in Southern Florida and other tropical regions. Look for it in local nurseries as either *B. nívosa* or *B. disticha*, they are the same plant. The most common variety and the one you will probably want is 'Roseo-picta' with mottled leaves of pink, red, green and white. To make matters more confusing it has another common name of 'Sweetpea Bush'. Another *Breynia* cultivar which I haven't found here, but sounds lovely is 'Atropurpurea', which has dark purple leaves.

Breynia owners agree that it is truly patient and forgiving of trial-and-error gardening methods. The plant that now flourishes in a partially shaded corner of my garden was originally in a large pot, exposed to all the coastal elements of sun and wind. After nearly six months, it was reduced to just a couple of stems with nearly microscopic green shoots clustered at the base. When I moved it to a partially-shaded planter by the house, I could see that, in spite of its distress, the roots were plentiful and sturdy, so I was hopeful. New branches and leaves soon appeared and the plant was growing nicely, but, unable to leave well enough alone, I made an aesthetic decision to move it one last time. I'm glad to report that the results have been gratifying for both plant and owner.

* * *

REFERENCE: *In Gardens of Hawaii*, Marie C. Neal, Bernice P. Bishop Museum Special Publication #40, 1948

Available at local nurseries including: Weidner's, Mission Hills, and Walter Andersen's.

MARGE HOWARD-JONES is an accomplished writer and volunteers as a docent at Quail Gardens.



Mature *Breynia nívosa*

Lucy Warren

MEDITATION GARDEN

Betty Newton

THIS BEAUTIFUL California garden is almost a secret, but you may visit. Ironically this secret is behind prominent stucco pillars topped with three-foot gilded lotus.

A *meditation garden*, this is a section of the Self Realization Fellowship Retreat and Hermitage grounds on Highway 101 in Encinitas. Entry is at 215 K Street on the north side. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The garden has a special feeling. You walk slowly, reflectively here. Perhaps it's the low overhanging trees giving a shadowed air. Maybe it is the sitting places, the nooks and benches for individuals and small groups. People speak quietly here.

Is it the proximity of the sea? I think not, because the Pacific comes as something of a surprise when you reach the top of the main uphill path. Here visitors can sit above the ocean in the sun with the sky, their own quiet mind and, below, the eternal sound of crashing surf.

Fellowship members believe through calming yourself you will find a garden within. The order was founded in 1925 by Paramahansa Yogananda. This site was dedicated in 1936, first as a private retreat, then a hospitality center. The order's founder directed the original landscaping and planted some of the trees and shrubs himself.

The garden's beauty comes from good design, fastidious maintenance that adds different color plants with changing seasons, and our own sense of being in a special place.

Postulate monks of the order maintain the garden the first four months of their training (which stresses even development of mind, spirit and body.) Orchid cactus in the trees, cinerareas, impatiens and cymbidiums in baby tears reflect the intensive care. Daylilies and iris bloom in just the right places to highlight the site's beauty.

Yesterday, today and tomorrow (*Brunfelsia pauciflora*) and begonias all bloom in their time. Holly fern asserts itself beneath light green Australian tree ferns.

The ordinary visitor's first thought may be that *his* garden will never see this kind of maintenance. Removing dead leaves, trimming off brown leaf tips and picking up shattered petals is an expression of love. It makes the garden more perfect.

This garden, on about one-quarter acre, is under fifty-year old plantings. Aged, pruned, twisted junipers and horizontal, gnarled Australian tea trees (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) give it tremendous character. Then add an element of mystery from its east-facing slope site with two horizontal side paths and bright light ahead.



Meditation garden path

Betty Newton

The greenery and flowers invite you to go slowly. Grassy, thirsty *Scirpus cernuus* curves at pool's edge. The vertical foil of tall bearded iris juts in just the right place. Baby tears fill in between flagstones. Large pots with annuals are set in complementary places.

On adjacent property to the north a whole new kind of garden is being developed. There, out in the sun, anchored by an interesting two-storied carved and timbered house, a smashing drought resistant garden is developing nicely. Wide curving paths of sand outline spacious beds which already bloom in spring with ceanothus, brilliant ice plant, sunflower, encelia — even a protea. Plants in the north garden are chosen for their ability to take the salt wind.

The Self Realization Fellowship Gardens are beautiful and refreshing — a special California Garden.

* * *

BETTY NEWTON is a garden writer and teaches landscaping for the Adult Education program.

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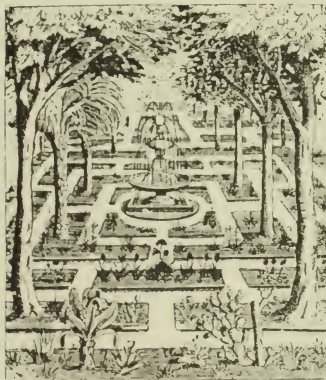


THE ADDED TOUCH: GARDEN ACCESSORIES

Carol Greentree, Vivien Mayer and Janice Wright

A GARDEN IS a mirror of the tastes of its creator. In making a satisfying garden — small or large — there is simply no substitute for a carefully considered design. A thoughtful home landscape links the plant interests of its owner to the way outdoor areas are lived in and enjoyed. It represents a happy marriage between functional spaces and an attractive collection of well-tended plants which are appropriate to the site and the theme of the garden.

A mere assemblage of plants, however, no matter how interesting and enviable, cannot in itself define an appealing garden. Nor can the addition of garden ornaments, no matter how tasteful, do more than complement a sensitive overall design. Yet after both plan and planting details have been refined, part of the fun of making a garden personal and distinctive lies in placing the stamp of one's own individuality upon its design.



One of the easiest ways to make a finished garden unique is by incorporating an *added touch*. This can be a single accessory, such as a comfortable bench that invites a quiet moment of relaxation, or an unusual container that dramatizes the style of the

garden. Or the added touch can be a series of related features that unify a design theme — perhaps a small fountain, some wall tiles and an antique urn.

The distinctive added touch is becoming easier to find in our county. As our population has expanded, public interest in the garden as a medium for expression of personal identity has also grown. Shifts in San Diego demographics have created a greater local demand for attractive garden amenities, as well as for a wider variety of subtropical plants. During the same decade that our suburbs have mushroomed, garden-related literature has

filled shelves and coffee tables with a colorful array of glossy books, forming a veritable international bazaar of garden ideas. These books have inspired and educated readers everywhere, helping develop a keener appreciation of the garden as an aesthetic — as well as a horticultural — experience. Today gardens are seen as a measure of culture; something akin to a chamber music concert or an art gallery visit...and much easier to enjoy on an everyday basis.

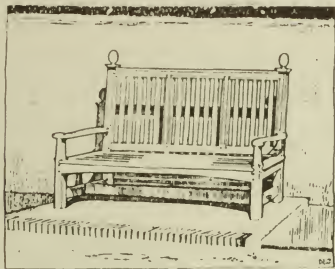
The durable popularity of gardening has generated a healthy diversity of design interests, inspired by world regions as varied as Provence, China and the Cotswolds. In contemporary gardens, appropriate accessories and furnishings set the perfect stage for a pleasant outdoor living environment that reinforces the owner's chosen design statement.

As San Diegans have grown increasingly cosmopolitan in their garden tastes, an active marketplace for the added touch has blossomed in our midst. Local gardeners no longer need to travel to Santa Barbara, Los Angeles or San Juan Capistrano to find unusual outdoor accessories to give their home landscapes special character. Nor must San Diegans depend solely on mail-order suppliers for handsome outdoor furnishings. Now a handful of local garden shops are offering broader selections of unusual items that give a garden charm and personality.

Several members of San Diego's Professional Women's Horticulture and Landscape Association (PWHLA) have been noting the changing market for garden accessories in our county, and have compiled the following list of shops which offer the added touch. This overview is by no means comprehensive. The market is always in flux. In fact we recently learned that one of four favorite garden shops, the Rancho Santa Fe Nursery, will be closing its doors in December, because nearby land values have forever altered the economics of operating a nursery at the center of the village. Yet other garden shops are appearing or are phasing sales emphasis from plant stock to more durable garden goods.

We hope you will find the following list helpful. In the next issue of *California Garden* we will feature several shops which specialize in flowers, arrangements and gifts — another area in the ever shifting kaleidoscope of home garden interests.

When you visit these or other garden shops, be sure to discuss your wants with those who help you. Casual conversations can reveal a wealth of information, and your contacts can sometimes put you in touch with custom designers of furniture, sculpture and pottery. For more ideas try to find a copy of the newly published *Decorating Eden* (see Book Reviews, page 183).



FRENCH GARDEN SHOPPE

295-4573

3951 Goldfinch Street (corner of University Avenue)

Mission Hills — a neighborhood of San Diego (92103)

Hours: Monday-Saturday — 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

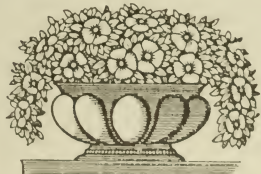
Sunday — 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This tiny, sunny shop is almost like a gallery, packed to the ceiling with useful, beautiful garden-related goods that delight the senses. Unusual wares are displayed with flair and have a distinctly romantic appeal; they are a refreshing blend of country and continental styles. Wrought-iron jardinières and benches are set off by dried-flower and live-plant topiaries. Whimsical birdhouses and cages are complemented by serious selections of books on gardening and cooking. Museum caliber art prints and floral stationery items are featured among an eclectic array of home and garden accessories. These include brass handles of outdoor faucets — miniature images of wildlife creatures such as dolphins and hummingbirds — and brass-accented galvanized watering cans in several sizes. Handsome copper, wood and ceramic containers abound.

One of the French Garden Shoppe's most engaging display themes is *al fresco* dining, but other surprises include perfumed bath oils, lap shawls, kitchen/bath linens and striking candle holders. And not all the goods are French; large glazed urns and matching tiles are Talavera-type ware imported from a town deep in Mexico. This store is a welcome source of new inspiration for San Diego gardeners — a gift shop for yourself, as well as for others.

Nearby metered parking can be tight, but just a short walk away, in the adjacent residential area, parking is seldom a problem.

JW & CG



MISSION HILLS NURSERY

295-2808

1525 Fort Stockton Drive (corner of Randolph)

Mission Hills — a neighborhood of San Diego (92103)

Hours: every day — 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

This full-service nursery is a favorite haunt of plant lovers, because of its ever-changing supply of uncommon plants and its friendly, knowledgeable staff. In recent years the garden shop has expanded its selection of garden amenities to include out-of-the-ordinary baskets, small sculptures and novel terra cotta containers, which include high-fire pots in imaginative shapes. Among the large garden accessories scattered throughout the plant displays are several attractive types of fountains, ranging in design from a simple, unadorned Mission style to a deeply carved Italianate style. These stock pieces can be custom finished in a variety of subtle earth tones, to appear convincingly weathered *in situ*.

A wicker-furnished sitting room at the back of the upstairs shop contains a selection of popular garden books. Ask to be shown, if you don't easily find this comfortable area. The nursery also carries several popular garden magazines, including *California Garden*.

Kate Sessions founded this nursery around the turn of the century. It is an important part of San Diego's horticulture history, and the surrounding neighborhood reflects Kate's strong influence on the landscapes of our region. A stroll around any part of Mission Hills will reveal many gardens planted by Kate and her friends, in which mature — and sometimes rare — plants can be seen at their best.

Street parking is usually easy near the nursery...but of course weekends are busy.

JW & CG



MISSION HILLS NURSERY

753-7177

442 North Santa Fe Road (near Encinitas Boulevard)

Encinitas (92024)

Hours: every day — 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This is a rather recent expansion of one of San Diego's oldest nurseries, serving Rancho Santa Fe, Del Mar, Solana Beach and other central coast communities. (Some readers will remember this site as the Olivenhain Nursery.) Like its parent in San Diego, this is a full-service nursery, but its large aviary filled with colorful birds makes it unique among garden shops in San Diego County. Because this nursery is on a small property, it does not display as wide a range of garden amenities as the city nursery. However, customers can order fountains and other items from the parent nursery. Topiary frames are available here, and the garden shop carries a limited stock of very good garden books. This is a service-oriented nursery, and the owner does design work for clients. The manager has a background in art: he is knowledgeable and helpful, and the clients trust his advice.

VM

CAROL GREENTREE is a free lance garden writer formerly a California retail-nursery reporter for *American Nurseryman*. She lives in La Jolla.

VIVIEN MAYER is active in promoting community gardening in San Diego County. She lives in Escondido.

JANICE WRIGHT is a professional gardener and immediate past president of PWHLA. She lives in Coronado.

EVERLASTING PLANTS AND HERBS: For Growing, For Giving

Robbin Korenthal

SOME PLANTS and flowers last longer than others, many can be made to last and to give pleasure for even greater periods of time. Vivien Mayer has been a gardener all of her life. Her parents were gardeners, and she believes that somehow, gardening has gotten into her genes. She would love nothing better than to pass along those seeds and genes to school children and has been actively involved in gardening education in elementary schools.

About three or four years ago, Vivien decided to take her gardening one step further. She felt that she had so much material in her yard, that she needed to utilize it in some way. So she gathered up some plants and decided to try drying them. Then, when her garage filled up with dried plants, she decided to put her creativity to work and try making wreaths from them.

Vivien's projects have evolved from what she considers "ugly wreaths", to beautiful gifts as she experimented with different materials, techniques and colors. Like any skill, it takes time to develop technique and to determine which combinations of flowers work best together. Most of her education came from trial and error with different plants — her main interest still lies in the drying of them.

She recently started her own business with several of her friends. The women want to keep the project fun, so they have decided to sell their wreaths and swags only to open markets, and to avoid normal retail outlets.

These days, Vivien's house is filled with the vibrant colors and heavenly scents of wreaths made from her everlasting plants and herbs. The word 'everlasting', is a generic term used for plants which keep their color and/or fragrance characteristics as they dry. True to her natural perspective on life, Vivien seldom uses any gels or preservatives. She may experiment with spraying on a color, but generally she finds enough beauty and color in the natural dried materials which she uses.

She modestly avers that anyone can make beautiful everlasting wreaths using materials already in your own back yard. Don't be afraid to experiment! Part of the

beauty is that the creation is all of your own making. The first step is to form the base of the wreath. This can be done using a flexible branch which can form a circle. Some materials such as grape vine, ivy or willow are common and traditional, but the material can be ornamental as well. One choice for the base would be switch size branches from fruit tree prunings, for they have lots of red in the bark and it stays red once it is dried. Honeysuckle

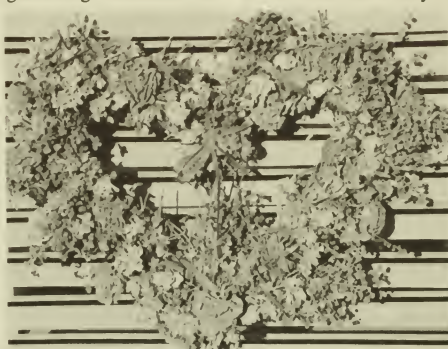
also makes a strong base for a wreath, and Vivien grows hers on a fish line so that it twines around itself for a twisted look. Vivien has even experimented with tumbleweed — but be sure to wear heavy gloves.

Vivien resists the ubiquitous crafters' glue gun in her designs. She pushes stems into the base allowing the twisted material to hold to itself or relies on fishing line or ribbon to help hold stems and shape. A clear drying white glue can be used to hold

material in place. Placing the material a little at a time and waiting for the glue to dry causes her to slow her pace and to maintain a better feel for what she is creating.

The dried decorations to be placed on the wreaths can be the gardener's choice. 'Double delight' roses dry very well and can be dried whole for wreaths or for potpourri. Ornamental oregano is stiff and upright, but cut into small pieces, the dried stems make a soft background for brighter materials. Hydrangeas can be dried with long stems in large bunches for winter flower arrangements, or used individually to decorate swags and wreaths. They should be picked and placed in two inches of water so that they can dry slowly to retain their resilience. Bougainvillea should be picked when the bracts are mature and somewhat dry, but not brown or fading. These leaves hold their color well when dried and care must be taken that their color does not dominate the arrangement. Bundles of wheat and the seed pods of poppies add variety and interest to wreaths.

For an antique or Victorian look and fragrance, try French lavender. For a long-lasting fresh scent, Sweet Annie is one of the few annual artemisias which can hold its fragrance in a wreath form for a couple of years.



Heart of dried materials by Vivien Mayer

Lucy Warren

Don't be limited by the wreath form when working with dried plants and herbs. Vivien suggests bundles of fresh rosemary by the fireplace. The fragrant oil in this herb holds well and sends its aroma throughout the house.

Santolina branches can be tied with pretty ribbon and placed in the closet to keep the moths away. Lemon verbena is a wonderful fresh herb, use it to make a refreshing and popular tea. Juniper branches can be used to make a wreath or swag for the holiday season.

Vivien believes that picking the plants, and deciding when to harvest them is the trickiest part of working with everlastings — but any gardener can do it. Begin by picking things which grow in your back yard and hanging them in a cool, dry, dark place, such as the garage.

It helps to go to the library to review some books and to visit other gardens with dried flowers and wreaths. But use these as starting points and for ideas, then begin experimenting for yourself. There is no absolutely right way to dry flowers or to make wreaths. All it takes is lots of plants, some time to pick and dry them, and a lot of creativity to design your projects. But the most important thing is to have fun, and to let your imagination run wild.

* * *

ROBBIN KORENTHAL has worked in a nursery and is a senior in journalism at San Diego State University.

GOOD WREATH MATERIALS LOCALLY AVAILABLE

BRANCHES FOR WREATH BASES

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
<i>Alyogyne Huegelii</i>	blue hibiscus
<i>Cotoneaster Franchetii</i>	cotoneaster
<i>Hardenbergia Comptoniana</i>	lilac vine
<i>Lathyrus odoratus</i>	sweet pea
<i>Prunus Persica</i>	peach
<i>Salvia Clevelandii</i>	sage
<i>Solanum rantonnetii</i>	solanum

PODS AND SEEDS

<i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i>	red-flowering gum
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	jacaranda
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	magnolia
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	heath melaleuca
<i>Pandorea jasminoides</i>	bower vine
<i>Papaver orientale</i>	oriental poppy
<i>Romneya Coulteri</i>	matilija poppy

FLOWERS

<i>Buddleia</i>	butterfly bush
<i>Chrysanthemum maximum</i>	Shasta daisy
<i>Chrysanthemum Parthenium</i>	feverfew
<i>Gomphrena globosa</i>	globe amaranth
<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>	strawflower
<i>Scabiosa</i>	pincushion flower
<i>Tagetes erecta</i>	marigold

NOTE ON MAIL ORDER PLANTS

DO YOU EVER WONDER why some out-of-state mail order catalogs which send live plants indicate that they will not ship specific plants to California and other selected states? We asked the catalog division of Wayside Gardens and they gave us this reply: "We do not grow all of our plants. Specific species are grown by suppliers in environments where that plant grows best. It is unfortunate that some suppliers do not grow the plants in such a manner that they can be certified to meet California plant quarantine requirements and thus cannot be shipped to California, the same is true for Arizona, Oregon and Washington." Now you know.

.oOo.

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ORCHIDS I HAVE KILLED:

What Every Beginner Should Know

Harry Tolen

THIRTEEN easy lessons! If I had a nickel for each orchid I sent to the great greenhouse in the sky, I would be in the Caribbean, floating in the azure waters, reading this article written by someone else. Then again, if I get a nickel for every one I have left I still might get there. Thinking back on 30 years of orchid growing, my biggest mistake was being too anxious. I improvised my way to success with many plants, petunias to bromeliads only reading what fell in front of me, then said "Sure, sure, just let me att'em!"

My first orchid encounter was at the local garden shop. Exquisite, expensive - cymbidiums! In 1959 not much information was available in local garden shops. San Diego's only local grower was a construction employee, just turning his hobby into an orchid nursery. He had lots of cymbidiums, some phalaenopsis and a few lady slippers. I spent my first bucks on three large cymbidiums in flower, and a mess of seedlings to watch grow.

LESSON ONE — The next weekend at another commercial grower, I found fantastic low prices on some very large flowering cymbidium plants. For \$10 I took one with five big flower spikes home to my wife Pat, bragging about the plant I *stole*. I broke off a spike of flowers and Pat quickly found a large vase. I went back outside to work.

About two hours later my wife summoned me from the house. The spike of flowers was totally wilted, as limp as a rag. So much for the super specials. The grower dumped it at a low price to get rid of the poor quality plant. It was the first orchid I killed — straight to the trash. I wouldn't wish that on anyone else. I don't shop at that place...ever.

LESSON TWO — I accumulated about twenty cymbidiums and word was getting around, Harry's growing orchids! A friend of my parents volunteered some orchids he would like to get rid of. "Do you really want to give orchids away?" I asked breathlessly. "Sure", he says. "They never bloom for me anyway! Had the damn things for six or seven years now, I must be doing something wrong. Take them and you can see what you can do."

Well, to make this story shorter, I grew the plants for six years myself...and they never flowered. I tried everything, light, water, fertilizer, planting mixes. I bit the bullet when a friend announced he was thinking about growing some orchids. "How about these?" I asked him. "I've had them for six years and have never flowered them. I guess they just don't like me! Maybe you can find the secret!" I could see the sparkle in his eyes as we

loaded them into his car. In summary, lesson two: "Don't shop in someone else's trash can!"

LESSON THREE — I used to find cymbidiums at Easter and Mother's Day at the local markets, small plants in clay pots, large flower spikes, really nice and attractively priced. I would pick up a few (for my wife of course) and add them to our collection. They never seemed to flower for me like they did at the store, I often waited two to three years for a flower.

A local grower clued me in. The secret — I was buying *pieces* of plants! Large plants had been torn apart, planted in small pots to sell at the holiday. Sometimes they were planted in just dirt to hold them steady in the pot. The dirt turned to mud becoming ballast for the big flower spike formed on a much larger plant. They'd only been in the pot for a few days. When you divide plants drastically it takes them years to regrow to flowering size, but it sells a lot of plants.

They're reasonably priced for even a piece of a plant. Just prepare yourself to wait until they build up energy to flower again. Most retailers probably aren't aware of this either. It's legal, but it can break your heart waiting for the plants to look like they did at the store.

Check the potting mix. If the orchid has just been repotted, it's probably a piece! Push the purple foil aside and take a look. It will save you a lot of growing time if you select a whole mature plant. They almost never miss flowering the next year.

Especially at holiday time, the selection of cymbidiums is fantastic now. Two major growers supply 90% of all the cymbidiums sold in California. Many are offered in two gallon pots. With good light and even reasonable care, these mature plants will probably have even more flowers the next year.

LESSON FOUR — This is a clue for whoever in the family grows and likes orchids the most. You can buy your spouse orchids for Christmas, birthdays, etc., for about the first three years of your hobby. Then they catch on just who these orchids are really for!

LESSON FIVE — Now I was getting interested in species orchids. No one locally even knew much about them, much less cared. I began writing for catalogs. A place in Brazil offered to send lots of bargains like 100 orchid plants for \$25. I obtained permits and placed an order for several hundred.

When the plants came in, the Agricultural Station in Los Angeles called me. I detected a semi-hysterical note

on the phone. They had already found 18 kinds of creatures and about 10% of the plants in the shipment were already dead. They had to treat the shipment and I should expect another 40% of the plants to die from general poor condition and the infestation treatment. That estimate was conservative, 90% was more like it. I finally received the sorriest looking mess I'd ever seen.

I wrote the company in Brazil. They offered to make immediate *free* replacement, throwing in more plants for the terrible experience. The *free* replacement shipment came to the tune of \$168.00 air freight. The Agriculture Department had another field day discovering new and delightful bugs, I received the same low percentage of live plants. I wrote the company again, telling them how unhappy I was and not to send any more *free* plants...I couldn't afford them.

Check out mail order places with other growers or hobbyists. *Beware of Post Office Box addresses!* Alvim Seidel, another firm in Brazil, had never heard of these folks, no one knew where the business was. I must have sent another thousand or so plants upstairs on that one!

LESSON SIX — For awhile my favorite orchid type was the cattleya tribe. I had a good sized collection. I had been warned constantly about *virus*. Watching my plants I

detected what was described as virus: streaked leaves, crippled flowers, etc. Into the trash — there is no cure! Then an article in the *American Orchid Society Bulletin* written by an elderly gentleman said, in effect, "Sure, there is virus, but not on the large scale it is given credit for. If you think you have a lot of virus, streaked leaves and the like, cut down on your fertilizer strength and see what happens!" OOPS! That hit a tender spot. I always figured if the box said "one teaspoon per gallon" then two teaspoons per gallon would make them grow even faster. Wrong! I cut back my fertilizer strength, in fact I cut it out altogether. By the end of three months my *virus* problem had disappeared. All the streaking was gone, and the plants never looked better. You might try this before you dump your sick looking plants in the trash!

For the last fifteen or sixteen years I've mixed fertilizer at $\frac{1}{4}$ the manufacturer recommended strength. If it says use four teaspoons to a gallon I use one teaspoon...but I use it all the time. The fertilizer is never off, but never strong. It comes through the fogger's, the hose, everywhere I use the water.

(To be continued...)

HARRY TOLEN is the Supreme Commander of Chula Orchids, 230 Chula Vista Street, Chula Vista, CA 91910-1825



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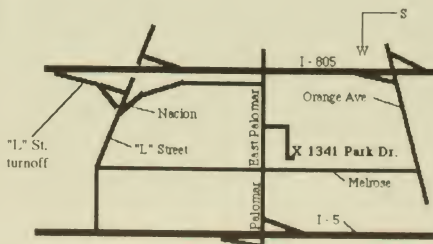
(4 times President of the San Diego County Orchid Society)

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Free cultural class on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 am. Call for my current business hours.



Ferns in the San Diego Landscape

Robin Halley

YOU KNOW, when the landscape architect put those tree ferns (*Alsophila Cooperi*) and the soft shield ferns (*Polystichum setiferum*) in between the white wall and the big windows at the house next door, I thought she was crazy. Even though I have grown ferns for nearly 15 years, I thought those ferns would fry. Imagine my surprise when the ferns thrived there. So, I decided it was time to look a little further into where ferns can be grown in San Diego.

Most of San Diego County is blessed with the temperate climate in which ferns can live year-round. Along the coast (the first couple of miles from the ocean) there are many ferns that can be grown in nearly full sun. On Silverado (in La Jolla, between Fay and Eads) there is a little garden with some flowers and some ferns. The garden is out in the full sun, and yet maidenhair (*Adiantum Raddianum*) and holly fern (*Cyrtomium falcatum*) grow there year round. It turns out that the trick is to keep the ferns 'feet' wet. When the root structure is kept moist, the fern fronds can generally handle much more sun and wind. The fronds breathe out moisture (transpire) at a higher rate, maintaining a little higher humidity around the plants. So, in these gardens, a little water each day is important to keep the ground moist, but not wet.

Good drainage is also important. More ferns die from overwatering than from underwatering. So, if you can work some organic material into the sand and clay that passes for soil in most of San Diego County, that will help ferns survive.

As you move inland from the coast, there are still ferns that will be green year-round. The trick as you go away from the coast is to provide more shade. Almost all ferns do best in bright light, but not direct sun. The most tolerant appears to be the California sword fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*). In my yard near the coast, it grows in nearly full sun. At my mother's house in



Clairemont, it grows on a south exposure where it gets sun all morning. At a friend's house in Lakeside, it grows in the shade under an elm tree.

Many species of staghorns (*Platyceriums*) are green year-round in San Diego. The easiest species to grow here are *Platycerium bifurcatum*, *P. Hilli*, *P. Vassei*, and *P. superbum*. Many of the other species will grow here as well, but some do need special care as the temperature drops below 50° F. during the winter. In any part of the county, these can be grown in bright shade or under the eaves on a north exposure. Staghorns generally do best if they are allowed to dry out between waterings. Many successful growers let their staghorns dry out and then dunk the entire plant in a tub of water for 20-30 minutes to get it completely saturated.

Tree ferns like the Australian tree fern (*Alsophila Cooperi*) and the New Zealand tree fern (*Dicksonia antarctica*) will grow very successfully most places in San Diego County. Friends from the Great Valley Fern Society in Modesto are very successful with these tree ferns in the heat of the San Joaquin Valley. The tree ferns do need some shade protection inland.

Other ferns that I find do particularly well in San Diego and are easy to grow are leatherleaf (*Rhumora adiantiformis*), bird's nest (*Asplenium nidus*), lace fern (*Microlepia strigosa*), and rabbit's foot fern (*Davallia trichomanoides* or *Humata Tyermannii*). Rabbit's foot fern makes a very interesting ground cover in places that don't get a really solid freeze. It does take a while to cover a large area.

With proper shade but bright light, good drainage, some air movement but protection from the worst of the Santana winds, and consistent watering and feeding, there are many additional fern species that can be grown in the ground, in pots, in baskets, and in trees and will supply a bit of different and not so difficult greenery for your yard and garden year-round.

* * *

ROBIN HALLEY is president of the San Diego Fern Society.



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Now Is The Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES
Compiled by Penny Bunker



AFRICAN VIOLETS

Helen LaGamma

KEEP violets well groomed, don't crowd the plants, repot plants that have outgrown their pots; a good rule, the pot should be $\frac{1}{3}$ the diameter of the leaf span.

PROVIDE good air circulation.

PROVIDE adequate humidity; monitor temperature carefully.

PREVENT extreme differences between day and night temperatures.

PLAN for using your plants with holiday decor; plan early, and plant in container you hope to use. They will look "lived in" and ready for the events, Thanksgiving and Christmas.



BEGONIAS

Margaret Lee

KEEP plant material moist but not wet. They can be drier during November and December.

FEED lightly a couple times a month to aid plants to withstand adverse conditions a bit better.

CONTROL the insect problem, spray for mealybugs and other pests.

SPRAY also for mildew control - read labels and follow instructions of manufacturer.

KEEP plants clean. Top dress with your favorite mulch.

PROTECT potted plants if any heavy rain; a heavy runoff can wash out soil and expose the roots.

ALLOW tuberous begonias to go dormant.



BONSAI

Dr. Herbert Markowitz

WATCH water carefully - cooler weather decreases the need for as much water; deciduous trees require just enough to keep them from drying out.

REMOVE all leaves or fruit from deciduous trees.

PRUNE black pines by cutting the candles about half length.

REFRAIN from fertilizing or transplanting any trees.

CONSIDER grafting conifers.

KEEP trees protected from sudden changes of temperature.

PROTECT trees from any heavy rains if they arrive.

PROTECT plants from sudden hot spell - move to shade.

Avoid a second growth period during this time - it will weaken the trees.



BROMELIADS

Mary Siemers

PREPARE to protect your plants from freezing temperatures in the coming cold months and from possible hail during the rainy season.

STOP fertilizing and decrease watering during fall and winter.

KEEP plants clean at all times by cutting dead leaves and spent blooms; cut close to the base of plant with scissors.

SPACE plants apart to allow adequate air circulation to prevent scale.

CHECK for snails and slugs; distribute bait around base of pot.



CACTI & SUCCULENTS

Joseph Betzler

WATCH your plants; most cacti and succulents have a dormant period. Do not force plants to grow during this time.

Plants that are winter growers should be growing at this time.

WATER only in the morning on days that are going to be warm. Make sure that there is no standing water on the plants in the evening.

GIVE fertilizer to your winter growing plants.

PROTECT your tender plants from excessive cold and winter rains. Repair cracks and leaks in greenhouses before the cold and rains come.

KEEP ants under control; they carry around other insect pests that harm plants, aphids and mealybugs.

CHECK that plants do not stay wet - watch for fungi and bacteria; treat appropriately.

CLEAN up the growing area that your plants are in.
START to look for some winter growing succulents to add extra dimensions to your collection.



CAMELLIAS

E.C. Snooks

FERTILIZE with a low nitrogen fertilizer such as 0-10-10 or 2-10-10.

CHECK for mites; the most obvious will be red spider but check for bud mites as well. Can use a systemic miticide.

WATCH watering; camellias do not like to get dry - moist but not wet. Misting in late afternoon on any dry hot day keeps leaves from burning.

MAINTAIN a regular spraying program, especially against looper worms.

KEEP plants clean; remove all fallen blooms and petals to prevent possible petal blight infestation.

CONTINUE to disbud; leave only one bud at each terminal and no more than three further down the stem.

TREAT some buds with gibberellic acid once a week for larger blooms. This is essential if you plan to enter a show in the spring.

PLAN for transplanting in December or later during the blooming season; this is dormant time. It is a good idea to get new plants while they are in bloom.



DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

WITHHOLD water and fertilizer to allow plants to go dormant.

ALLOW plants to dry - when brown about 12" from the ground, cut off the stalk.

LEAVE tubers in the ground to harden off if there is good drainage; otherwise lift roots before the heavy rains.

WASH the clumps after digging, and let dry a few hours before storing. If dividing tubers, treat cut area with soil sulphur, and store in vermiculite, sand, or other medium. Store out of the weather. Be sure tubers are tagged before storage.

EPIPHYLLUMS

San Diego Epiphyllum Society



ALLOW plants to go dormant by withholding fertilizer with nitrogen.

PROTECT plants from exposure to the elements. Frost, hail, and strong winds can cause irreparable damage. Over exposure to harsh winter sunlight can be as detrimental as hot summer sun.

TIE or stake long branches so they will not break when

winds and rain arrive.

WATER sparingly, but do not allow to dry out completely.

CHECK for snails and slugs. Use a few granules of Sluggetta at the base of container - it gives control and leaves very little residue.

MAINTAIN good grooming - prune out dead, unsightly, and non-productive branches to conserve the plant's energy.

FERNS

Ray Sodonka



WATER if it does not rain. Check plants that are not reached by rains.

FERTILIZE with a diluted mixture once more before the December rest period.

PROTECT plants at night in frost areas. Cover with newspaper, old sheets, or place in garage.

CONTINUE to be alert for insects - slugs and snails may be active.

PLANT spores and keep in warm area.

CHECK that planting mix has not completely broken down.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo



PRUNE deciduous trees and vines after their foliage has dropped.

WAIT until early spring to prune evergreens.

SPRAY dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil to kill scale insects, spider mites, and other overwintering pests.

SPRAY dormant peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) to control leaf curl.

ORDER bare root trees and vines to plant in December or January.

PROVIDE frost protection for young citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.

FUCHSIAS

William Selby



CUT BACK your plants and take cuttings in frost free areas.

ALLOW plants to go dormant in areas where there is danger of frost.

CLEAN up plants: remove dead leaves and other debris from pots, baskets, and around the ground plants.

WATER and feed plants regularly; even in cool weather

the plants still need some water and food.

PROTECT from heavy rains if they arrive.

WATCH for insects in warmer areas.

PROTECT from frost and cold winds in areas where required.

GERANIUMS

Mrs. Carol Roller



WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Watering will be necessary less often than in the warmer season. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible.

CONTINUE feeding with a balanced fertilizer dissolved in water using less than the recommended strength. Apply as often as needed to avoid nutritional deficiencies. Long term pellets may be used instead.

CONTINUE a pest and disease control prevention program using all products according to the manufacturer's directions.

PRUNE any plants which have not been cut back. At least one green leaf should remain on every stem of regals, scented and similar types. Lanky plants which were pruned earlier can be cut back again to produce more compact plants.

MAKE cuttings from the prunings. Shelter cuttings from extreme weather.

PINCH plants which were pruned earlier in the season.

GIVE plants temporary shelter from freezing if temperatures fall too low.

CONTINUE to rotate plants on a regular basis in order to keep them well-shaped.

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society



SET UP a good watering program. Give Louisianas and Japanese a wet swampy condition. Spurias and beardless like it damp, but not swamplike. Bearded varieties need alternate soaking and drying to force root growth.

FEED tall-bearded a balanced organic fertilizer. Give Japanese and Louisiana iris an acid type (camellia food is convenient).

CLEAN beds of dead leaves and weeds; aphids winter-over in debris filled areas.

SPRAY for aphids or give a light feeding of a systemic to control all sucking plant pests.

PLANT bulbous type iris - Dutch, English, and Spanish.

MOVE and replant Pacific Coast natives in late December when the little white roots are showing. Water well until they are established.

NATIVE PLANTS

Jeanine De Hart



CONTINUE to plant natives into February, although the earlier the better, beginning in about late October.

THINK about the ultimate size, and give the natives lots of room.

REMEMBER to water deeply and infrequently to augment winter rain. Wintertime is when the root system of the natives develop.

IF drainage is a problem, plant upslope or build a mound for those natives that are the most sensitive to over watering. (*Dendromecon* sp., *Fremontodendron* sp., *Trichostema lanatum*, *Arctostaphylos* sp. and some of the *Ceanothus* sp.)

NATIVES won't need fertilizing when planted, but if they've been in quite a while, this would be a good time to add a slow release, such as Job's stakes or Osmocote. Always use fertilizer weaker and less often than recommended.



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ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

FEED diluted solution of 3-10-10 to complex oncidium alliance, brassidiums, miltonias, if they are planted in bark - otherwise feed 18-18-18 in diluted fertilizer solution in any other media.

CLEAN up trash in growing areas. Remove shade cloth to give plants as much light as possible. Clean swamp cooler, drain and cover, oil motor, check belt and cords. Clean any spray nozzles - remove, take apart and soak in phosphoric acid (diluted 10 to 1 or just plain vinegar).

CHECK heater fittings, pilot lights, fans, and flues - you will need an air inlet so the heater has fresh air for combustion and replacement for the gasses that go up the flue.

LET deciduous Dendrobiums go dormant; stop feeding when leaves start to drop. Water just enough to keep roots moist. Watch for new spikes on evergreen Dendrobiums when terminal leaves mature.

REPOT Cattleyas if new growth is going over the side of the pot. Feed Cattleyas on 18-18-18 every third watering during the winter.

FEED Cymbidiums 10-30-20 fertilizer or equal.

PHALAENOPSIS - should be in the flower initiation mode - more light - 1500 foot candles. Low night temperature or 52-54°F. through October, normal fertilizer. November, high light, night temperature of 62-64°F. Flush with clear water the first week; second week use epsom salts in solution (4 lbs in 5 gal. of water) use a 16 to 1 hose - on proportioner. December - first week, flush with clear water, next weeks use a hi-phosphorus fertilizer. Last week, go normal minimum night temperature. By mid-January should be back to normal on everything - temperature, light, fertilizer.

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ROSES

Brian Donn

STOP feeding and reduce your watering. You want to discourage new growth and allow your bushes to go dormant.

CONTINUE watering roses in pots, just enough to keep the root ball from drying out completely.

DECIDE which bushes you might discard. Dig and prepare the planting hole for any replacement. Dig the soil to 18" deep, add ½ cup of bonemeal or superphosphate and a few shovelfuls of planter mix to improve drainage and aeration.

DORMANT spray in December and again in January for pest and disease control.



VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo

REMOVE and compost warm-season vegetables to prevent pests and diseases from overwintering on them.

CONTINUE planting cool-season vegetables which will not be subject to frost injury.

PLANT seed of short-day onions, such as Grano, Granex, or Crystal Wax, and garlic cloves in November for bulbs next summer.

PLANT dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus, and rhubarb.

AVOID crown rot of rhubarb, plant crowns in containers filled with porous potting soil and transplant into garden, where drainage is good, after several leaves have developed.

GREEN THUMB

CONTINUE to plant annuals and perennials.

PLANT bulbs for spring color; daffodils, narcissus, ranunculus, anemones, scillas, Dutch iris, callas, lilies. Tulips and hyacinths should be refrigerated several weeks before planting and may be planted after Thanksgiving.

FEED bird of paradise. Cut leaf growth from clumps to improve appearance.

PRUNE and shape holly and pyracantha when cutting berries for holiday decorations.

APPLY dormant spray in December to control pests and disease next year.

USE snail and slug bait regularly.



HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF *HORTICA*

A Color Cyclopedia of Garden Flora in All Climates
Worldwide and Exotic Plants Indoors

Doris Graf-Matthews

EVERY DECADE or so a truly significant book is produced in the field of horticulture. The wonder of an accomplishment such as the new *Hortica* by A. B. Graf has an interesting history. In about 1950 the Julius Roehrs Company, then located in East Rutherford, New Jersey found that a key tool in promoting sales was a pictorial catalogue of the many exotic plants sold by the nursery. The decision was made to publish a three to four page loose leaf brochure showing photographs of plants one could purchase from the greenhouses. As time passed and the nursery prospered customers would indicate how valuable they found those advertising pages which they carefully filed for future reference. Taking the cue, Dr. Alfred Byrd Graf published the first bound version of *Exotic Plants* in 1953. It was 60 pages long. In time the original 60 pages grew, so that in 1958 the first edition of *Exotica, A Pictorial Cyclopedia of Tropical Plants*, was published. This work included 642 pages with 4,000 black and white photos. In scientific inclination, the plants were arranged alphabetically by plant family. The book received instant acclaim and garnered numerous awards from the horticultural establishment.

For Dr. Graf the searching, photographing and identification of plants to present to horticulturists became a career. His experience with his initial publication built into a lifetime of international travel, often to remote places involving severe hardship and danger, and the constant perusal of published material to stay current with academic nomenclature. The research necessary to compile books of this type is intensive and very time consuming. It takes the nerve of an adventurer, the eye of an artist, and the meticulous attention to detail of a fine scientist.

Exotica has been expanded and republished in color during the intervening years. Drawn by the extensiveness of the plant world and the lack of visual reference material available, Dr. Graf continued to work on the volume *Tropica*, exploring and documenting the subtropical plants of the world. To be certain, the plant world is not laid out on a grid with sharply defined edges of plant domains, so readers can appreciate the overlap of some plants.

Dr. Graf is now in his nineties and has completed the final book in this life-long series, *Hortica*. *Hortica* begins where *Tropica* left off, as it provides pictorial documentation of the plants of temperate climates. *Hortica* explores the wide variety of garden plants which grow in regions that experience cool to cold winters. House plants are also represented in the opening chapter. The most

ambitious work of his career, *Hortica* includes 8,100 color photos in its 1,218 pages and represents about ten years of research and production.

Dr. Graf's books include not only thousands of exact photos, but also extensive text including descriptions of plants and their flowering seasons, the character and general uses of each plant. The botanical name, synonyms if any, and common names complete the identification section of the text. Major new features of this work are the cold hardiness zones for northern America and western Europe. Specific temperature parameters for each plant are given as part of the descriptive text. Both metric and standard American measurements with conversion charts are included. There are also useful sections on plant geography and world vegetation maps.

The goal of Dr. Graf's work has always been to fill the gap which exists between academic publications and practical horticulture. *Hortica* accomplishes this mission, serving as an interpretive tool without demanding an advanced degree in biological sciences. While it's \$238.00 introductory price will not put it on every gardener's shelf, it will soon prove invaluable to serious collectors and horticulture professionals. Holiday gift givers may note that it will be available before Christmas, 1992, but you may want to pre-order from your favorite bookstore or nursery.

* * *

Roehrs Company of East Rutherford, New Jersey publishes *Hortica*.
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TREES OF BALBOA PARK

In Bloom, Fall Foliage and Fruit
For November and December

Kathy K. Puhlava

VISITORS TO Balboa Park have the opportunity to view plants in flower, fruit and fall foliage during the next few months. General locations of trees are listed in response to your request and suggestions.

BLOOM:

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	LOCATION
<i>Chorisia speciosa</i>	floss silk tree	Desert Garden
<i>Erythrina Humeana</i>	Natal coral tree	S. Carousel parking lot
<i>Markhamia Hildebrandtii</i>	markhamia	Natural History Museum
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Jerusalem thorn	Desert Garden
	Mexican palo verde	
<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	African tulip tree	Natural History Museum
<i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	firewheel tree	Bowling Green
<i>Tecoma stans</i>	yellow bells	Marston House

FALL LEAF COLOR:

Yes, you can enjoy the colors of autumn without driving to the mountains!

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	LOCATION
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	maidenhair tree	Houses of Pacific Relations
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos 'inermis'</i>	honey locust	Spreckles Organ Pavilion
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos 'sunburst'</i>	sunburst honey locust	Alcazar parking lot
<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Chinese flame tree	6th Ave. & Laurel St.
<i>Liquidambar orientalis</i>	oriental sweet gum	Balboa Dr. & Quince St.
<i>Liquidambar Styraciflua</i>	sweet gum	6th Ave. & Quince St.
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	dawn redwood	Balboa Dr. & Nutmeg St.
<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	California sycamore	canyons along highway 163
<i>Punica Granatum</i>	pomegranate	Automotive museum
<i>Pyrus Kawakamii</i>	evergreen pear	Prado
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	bald cypress	Federal Building

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FRUIT:

Winter color throughout the park includes plants which have attractive red and orange fruits. Along with the many varieties of *Pyracantha*, *cottoneaster* and *Ilex* the berries on these trees not only provide an attractive fall and winter display, but are also a valuable food source for the many bird species which live in the park. These trees and shrubs provide food and habitat for a variety of birds and small mammals which live in the park and create a "wildlife corridor" throughout the city.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	LOCATION
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>	alectryon	Casa del Prado
<i>Arbutus Unedo</i>	strawberry tree	Alcazar Garden
<i>Duranta repens</i>	sky flower	Marston Point loop
<i>Duranta repens 'variegata'</i>	variegated sky flower	Natural History Museum
<i>Harpullia arborea</i>	NCN	Federal Building
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon	canyons along Balboa Dr.
<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Chinese flame tree	6th Ave. & Laurel St.
<i>Pittosporum rhombifolium</i>	Queensland pittosporum	Zoro Garden
<i>Schinus Molle</i>	California pepper tree	Pepper Grove
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper tree	Pepper Grove

Another tree of the holiday season is the Balboa Park Christmas Tree. The deodar cedar, *Cedrus deodar*, is located north of the Spreckles Organ Pavilion at the top of Palm Canyon.

* * *

KATHY K. PUPLAVA is the Balboa Park Horticultrist.

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR (Continued)

Dec. 6- Jan. 4	CITY BEAUTIFUL Christmas in Botanical Garden, Poinsettia Display.
Dec. 7-30	Botanical Garden, Balboa Park. Opens to public 2 p.m. Plant sale \$5.50 each on closing day.
	LOS ANGELES ARBORETUM A Victorian Christmas
	301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Decorated Queen Anne Cottage viewed through windows. Hours: 9:30-4:30 p.m. Adult \$3, senior citizen/student \$1.50, child to 12 \$.75. Call 818/821-3222.
Dec. 18	♣ SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ♣ Christmas Bus Trip, "Yesteryear Style"
	Richly decorated Ranchos in the Long Beach area. \$38 member, \$41 nonmember. Lunch included. Reservation/information 232-5762.
Weekly	SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Docent Tours
	Balboa Park by Organ Pavilion. Tues., Fri., Sat., & Sun. 10-4 p.m. Donation. Free garden admission Tues. Call 232-2780.
Every Saturday	QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Free Guided Tours
	230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Meet at Visitor's Center. 10 a.m. For pre-scheduled tours (any age), call 436-3036. Garden admission free. \$1 parking.
Every Saturday	OFFSHOOT TOURS One-hour Plant Walks in Balboa Park
	Meet in front of Botanical Lath House. Canceled for rain or less than 4 attendees. 1st Sat. History Walk; 2nd Sat. Palm Walk; 3rd Sat. Tree Walk; 4th Sat. Desert Walk; 5th Sat. Sample of all four tours. 10 a.m. No tours Nov. 26 through Jan. 15, 1993.

Deadline for submission to HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for Jan./Feb. issue is Nov. 15.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION is not responsible for changes in information which has been submitted by the organizations.



Book Reviews

Welsh, Pat

PAT WELSH'S SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GARDENING; A Month-by-Month Guide

San Francisco, Chronicle Books, 1992, 352 pages, b&w illust., 32 full color pages, 8 1/4" x 11", softcover, \$19.95

Southern California gardeners who have room for only four regional gardening books should include the *Sunset Western Garden Book*, *Check Lists of Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions* by Roland Hoyt (now being reissued), a book of their choice and *Pat Welsh's Southern California Gardening*. Like your favorite recipe book, this volume will look worn over time, as you reach for it again and again, sometimes just to read the monthly guidelines for plant care, sometimes to look up a specific plant. Pat Welsh has done it all in her own garden. She tells it like it is in her lively upbeat way, so accurate for our climate, bringing smiles to gardening chores. From basic gardening information to specific plant care, 'Quick Tips' to 'Rules of Thumb', you will constantly enjoy this definitive guide to gardening in Southern California. Run to the bookstore (or Price Club) and get it! A great Christmas gift for gardening friends.

REVIEW BY LUCY WARREN

* * *

De Bray, Lys

THE GREEN GARDEN

London, Ward Lock, 1991, 80 pages, 30 color photos, b/w illust., 8 1/4" x 8 1/4", softcover, \$8.95 U.S. Distributor, Sterling Press

This interesting book is for those who wish to have a garden without flowers. There is a wide choice of material which can be grown solely for foliage interest, and this author has both advice and a plethora of ideas. She begins by asking "What kind of gardener?" — flower arranger, collector, absentee gardener, busy person, elderly and/or disabled gardener — and then she says "What kind of garden?" — large, new, neglected, damp, handkerchief size. This leads to a discussion of the needs and necessities of all categories, and Lys de Bray supplies plenty of information. Her title is a misnomer, because she gives seven colors of foliage other than green and tells how these qualities can be used effectively. Each design is charted and accompanied by lists of plants and trees, and there is a dictionary of foliage plants. The book is illustrated with

clear color photographs which reinforce the author's premise. A useful book for landscape designers looking for original features to incorporate in a large design, or for those who would like a different kind of yard.

REVIEW BY ELSIE TOPHAM

Wilkinson, Elizabeth & Henderson, Marjorie, editors DECORATING EDEN, A Comprehensive Sourcebook of Classic Garden Details

San Francisco, Chronicle Books, 1992, 226 pages, many b&w photos/illust., 9" X 12", hardcover, \$40.00; softcover, \$19.95

This is not a book to read through cover to cover, but one to browse on rainy days or to dash for when it is time for a garden project. Each garden is the sum of its details from the individual plants to the walkways and paths, the fences, fountains and waterways, the garden house or gazebo, sculptures, bird baths, rocks, and furniture. What is left out is as important as what is included. *Decorating Eden* gives examples of all types of garden features (except the plants) in historical and regional perspective. Learn not only where designs for features were developed, but also how they have been used through the ages. This book is for planners and dreamers, historians and designers, but it is especially for garden lovers.

REVIEW BY LUCY WARREN

* * *

Maher, Michael J., Editor

SCIENCE AND CULTIVATION OF EDIBLE FUNGI Brookfield, VT, A.A. Balkema Publishers, 1991, 846 pages, 50 b&w illust., 7" X 10", hardcover, \$100.00 (2 volume set)

"Is the shiitake mushroom an aphrodisiac and a cause of longevity?" This provocative paper is only one in a collection of papers; which, with few exceptions, are technical in nature and often difficult for the layman to understand. Browsing through the synopsis (in English, Spanish and German) at the beginning of each article will give the reader an appreciation of the research being done in the world of mushroom cultivation.

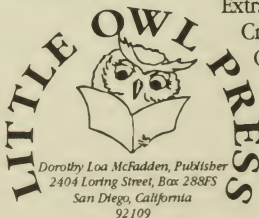
Two papers stand out as being of interest to our readers. One paper from Belgium describes the use of ornamental, partly edible mushrooms (called shelf fungi) in

Drama in the Garden

by Dorothy Loa McFadden

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combination with flowering and foliage plants in the florist industry. It includes unusual photographs.

A German paper describes the revitalization of a spruce forest using ectomycorrhizal fungi. By understanding the exchange of nutrients between a particular tree species and its mycorrhizal fungi, application to other types of forests may be possible in the future.

Readers interested in the personal or commercial growing of the common button mushroom or the exotic Shiitake, oyster or Enoki mushrooms may find information in these papers which are the proceedings of the 13th International Congress on the Science on Cultivation of Edible Fungi held in Dublin in September, 1991.

REVIEW BY FRANK KASTAMA

Baxendale, Martin **WINDOW BOXES**

London, Ward Lock, 1991, 80 pages, 29 color photos, b/w illust., 8 1/2" x 8 1/2", softcover, \$8.95 U.S. Distributor - Sterling Press

Window boxes, not to be bracketed with planters and containers, seem to be endemic to communities where the majority of the population can be classified as garden-oriented and therefore willing to grow plants in any situation. For those who are interested in dressing up any type of building, here is a book full of information for the most dedicated grower of herbs, flowers and yes, vegetables. Many styles of boxes are illustrated here using a number of generally helpful drawings, and Martin Baxendale is knowledgeable on such topics as siting, the use of brackets and ledges, and types of pots and containers. He advocates pre-planning and color schemes with plenty of good color photos to illustrate his points. Along with standard lists of suitable flowers, vegetables and fruits, he does not forget to mention plants which are pollution-tolerant and/or shade-loving. Written in a clear conversational style which makes this wealth of information easy to handle.

REVIEW BY ELSIE TOPHAM

Page, Gill

TOWN GARDENS

London, Ward Lock, 1991, 80 pages, 34 color photos, b/w illust., 8 1/2" x 8 1/2", softcover, \$8.95 U.S. Distributor - Sterling Press

In a preface, Gill Page defines a town garden as "traditionally as small as 12' x 6', probably walled on all sides and possibly with brick paving. But any small garden could fit into this category and the same rules apply." There follows a text which has much to say about containers, furniture, ornaments and the use of water. Some useful practical hints on maintenance include such topics as wood preserving, and the disposal of garden trash in a small space. Different ideas and designs are ingeniously illustrated using 34 color photos taken in seven small gardens. The author demonstrates the effective use of varying levels as well as how to handle a staircase, a balcony and a mirror in a small area. This is a British publication but its usefulness is international.

REVIEW BY ELSIE TOPHAM

Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation, Inc.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? A Video Guide To Successful Gardening

Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1993, 60 minutes, all color, VHS video, \$29.95

This 1992 VHS video is a 60 minute presentation. There are four program segments geared for a youth or novice audience.

"Breaking Ground" is about getting your garden started and includes all materials and tools needed for a garden. "Healing the Soil" discusses rotary tilling, double digging, container soil recipe and composting. "Seeds to Seedlings" covers seed sowing, seedling planting techniques, transplanting and artificial light for seed starting indoors. "Seedlings to Harvest" is an organic approach to companion planting, fertilizing, safe pest management using beneficial insects and safe pest control recipes.

This video was produced as a teachers' aid. It is ideal for first time gardeners, a springboard for ideas that will motivate the viewer to seek additional professional information. It is complete in its explanations on how to do things correctly for best results. Some information is generic and less applicable to Southern California soils and climate.

REVIEW BY JEAN E. JOHNS

Beales, Peter

ROSES

Henry Holt & Company, 1992, 472 pages, 1096 color photos, 14 b&w illust., 70 color illust., 10" x 9 1/4", hardcover, \$60.00

The publisher introduced this book as an illustrated encyclopedia and growers handbook. The size and contents are truly impressive. It has over 1000 color photographs and a brief history of over 2000 old garden roses, modern roses and species. It is obvious that this reference book is intended for serious rose growers.

The author's presentations are thorough so gardeners will have no trouble understanding the text. His special love for English style gardens or old garden roses is reflected in the text and photographs.

Do not assume that this book is "just for experts"; anyone interested in roses should spend a few hours just turning the pages and enjoying the art quality photos of the most memorable roses of the last 150 years.

REVIEW BY JOHN FARLEIGH

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HERBS IN POTS

Robert D. Horwitz

SOME OF THE easiest-to-grow plants are the tastiest. Herbs and pots seem to go together very well, and considering that over 250,000 people in San Diego County live in apartments and condominiums, growing herbs in your window sill or on the balcony seems appropriate. This type of growing herbs does not leave out the gardener that has a full size garden.

If you are just starting to grow herbs, select common ones which are used most frequently in the kitchen. These include parsley, basil, oregano, dill and tarragon. They all take the same culture, so the care is simplified. Choose an eight-inch pot or other suitable container for each of the herbs. Place a piece of broken pottery or a large stone over the weep hole to keep the soil from draining out if you accidentally over water the pot. Fill each container to within an inch of the top with good nutritious potting soil that will drain well. Plant several seeds in each container, following the directions on the seed packet. Water well, cover with plastic and put in a warm place until the seeds germinate. Loosen the plastic often to allow fresh air to enter. After the seeds have germinated, you no longer need the plastic.

If using seeds seems too slow, you can buy pony packs of herbs in the nursery. Transplant the herbs into their growing container. Make sure that the soil level in the container matches that of the pony pack and water well. The plants need at least several hours of direct sun during the day.

When the herbs are growing nicely and are well established in their permanent container, fertilize with a well balanced fertilizer, either liquid or granular. You can start using the herbs after the main stem is several inches high, pinch off the amount you need from the top. The pinching will cause the plant to send out side shoots and become more bushy with tender leaves.

Your potted herbs treated in this fashion will last for months. Once the plant decides to go to seed, it is time to discard it and start new ones. You can keep a continuous supply of herbs on hand by planting new pots every few months.

* * *

ROBERT D. HORWITZ is a retired aerospace engineer and gardener.



WATERCRESS

WE THINK watercress adds something special to the taste of salads — a hint of pungent peppery flavor that gives a unique lift to any everyday mixture of greens, or as a flavor spike to tomato or cucumber or potato salad. Watercress is exceptionally rich in vitamins C and A. It needs a moist location; on the banks of a flowing stream is traditional, but it can be grown quite successfully in pots set in pans of water. The clean sharp flavor of freshly grown watercress must be experienced to be appreciated.

* * *

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CHRISTMAS BUS TOUR YESTERYEAR STYLE

Friday, December 18

Helen A. Gagliardi

LONG BEFORE Christmas decorations were made of plastic, glass or tinsel and sold in cardboard boxes, the residents of Rancho Los Alamitos decked their spacious hall with the natural greens, colored berries and fruits collected on the vast acres that surrounded their sprawling adobe ranch house. You can experience that bygone life by joining as we tour two of the loveliest and best preserved of the great California Ranchos in nearby Long Beach.

We'll have a private tour of the 7½ acres of restored gardens, barn area where majestic shire horses once more reside, and finally, of the bedecked homestead festooned with garlands of green and endless fresh flowers that could only thrive in the mild December climate. No corner or mantel is left undecorated.

A special catered lunch at the Chart Room of U.C. Long Beach will precede our equally delightful visit to Rancho Los Cerritos in the afternoon.

Once again the holiday theme will embellish this well preserved survivor of 200 years of turbulent history. It was the center of a 167,000 acre land grant in 1784, but 'shrank' to a 27,000 acre cattle/sheep ranch during the 19th Century, and finally became a cherished home of very wealthy and conservation-minded owners in the 20th Century. They deeded their property to the historical preservation group that maintains it for us to enjoy today.

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☐ Hadley's, Palomar Airport Road, 8:45 a.m.

BUS TOUR TO PASADENA ROSE BOWL FLOATS

Saturday, January 2

Helen A. Gagliardi

JT'S ALMOST A tradition to journey with Floral to Pasadena on January 2 to view those wonderful Rose Bowl floats. The big parade, the football game, the hoopla and the CROWDS of New Year's day will all be gone. However, we know that those beautiful flower-bedecked floats will still be available. You will have time to admire, photograph and study each one.

The trip is so popular that it has been repeated successfully for many years. Some people consider this tour as the final event of the long holiday season, while others think of it as the first festive outing of the New Year. Come along! If the weather looks inclement, pack some rain gear and off we'll go.

Bus Tour to Pasadena Jan. 2, 1993, Lunch On Your Own

- ☐ \$22.50 Members (Who pay dues directly to SDFA)
☐ \$25.50 Non-members and Affiliates

Checks payable to: San Diego Floral Association
Mail to: Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park,
San Diego, CA 92101-1619

INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE

Name Phone

Address

City State Zip

Pickups:

- ☐ Red Lobster Park & Ride, Grossmont, La Mesa, at 7:30 a.m.
☐ Balboa Park Organ Pavilion Parking Lot, 7:45 a.m.
☐ La Jolla Village Square, Nobel Drive, 8:15 a.m.
☐ Hadley's, Palomar Airport Road, 8:45 a.m.

San Diego Floral Association
and Affiliates Present

Christmas — A Floral Fantasy

Please Join Us at Christmas on the Prado

Friday, December 4 5-9 p.m.

Saturday, December 5 12-9 p.m.



SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library

Casa del Prado Room 105 San Diego CA 92101-1619
619/232-5762

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS

1992/1993

October 20, February 16

April 20, June 15

5:45 p.m.

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego



IN AND ABOUT THIS ISSUE



THIS SEASON brings its own kind of energy as the weather turns cooler and people begin preparing for festivities. Year end holidays usually bring to mind boughs of evergreens and pine trees, bright holly berries and mistletoe. But in Southern California our trees and shrubs are seldom bare. Here more plants are 'ever green'. We've had fun thinking about just a few of the varieties which have wintery names and year round foliage. We do get cold weather in some areas, so in this issue we have included some interesting plants which grow well in pots. You may enjoy them indoors or on your patio, or consider them for gift giving. Speaking of gifts, consider garden accessories. Or perhaps you would like to create a gift using botanical materials from your own yard with tips from Vivien Mayer. Maybe you also know someone who would enjoy a year of *California Garden*. Wishing you the best of the season from all of us!

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GETTING TO KNOW SAN DIEGO FLORAL

Pat Kastama

CONTRARY TO rumors, Barbara Jones does not bake the hundreds of gingerbread men that she and her family sell each year during Christmas on the Prado. However, since joining the San Diego Floral Association in 1969, Barbara has done almost everything else.

She immediately filled in as Recording Secretary when the incumbent resigned. Soon after, Barbara was named editor of *California Garden* magazine. She brought a great deal of knowledge and experience to her new position. She has a degree in Botany with a minor in English and had previously served as editor of the Ikebana International magazine while living in Japan. During her tenure as editor, *California Garden* changed from being hand type set to photo offset printing.

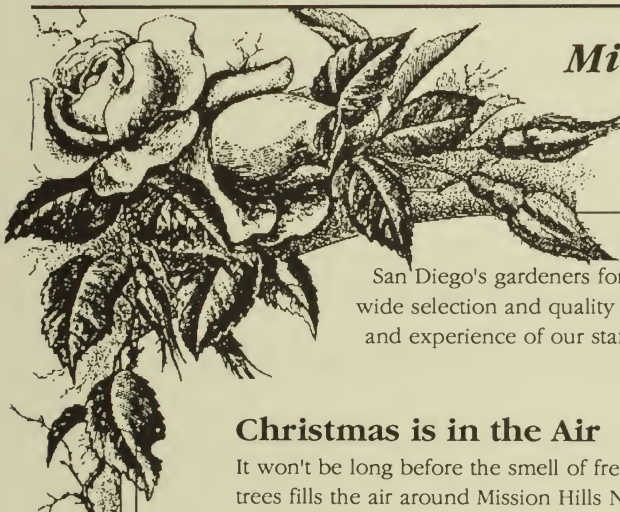
It was during this period that Barbara encouraged Virginia Innis to organize the first Floral bus tours to provide financial support for both the magazine and Floral.

Concurrent with her work at Floral, Barbara gave lectures and demonstrations in various aspects of flower arranging and landscape design to community groups and also served as a judge in many flower shows. She was Director of Palomar District and volunteered in a Chula Vista School District program in gardening for 4th graders. Barbara had endless energy and a willingness to work hard and share her expertise.

In 1984, Barbara was elected President of Floral. She was instrumental in getting our organization started with computers and also instigated the purchase of our first telephone answering machine and electric typewriter.

Barbara has recently served as Recording Secretary and Historian for Floral and she is currently working on a history of our organization. When any of us have questions about past events, we turn to Barbara for the answers and again appreciate how much she has given to SDFA.

PAT KASTAMA is past-president of San Diego Floral Association.

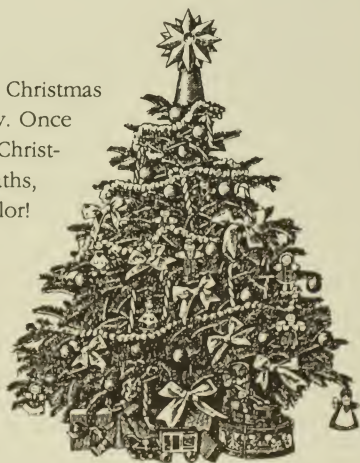


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Mission Hills Nursery has been serving San Diego's gardeners for over 80 years. We pride ourselves on the wide selection and quality of our merchandise and in the knowledge and experience of our staff. Stop by at any time and get acquainted.

Christmas is in the Air

It won't be long before the smell of fresh cut Christmas trees fills the air around Mission Hills Nursery. Once again, we will be carrying fresh cut and live Christmas trees as well as a full assortment of wreaths, garlands and poinsettias in every size and color! Let us help you decorate your holidays.



Spring Bulbs are Here

Now is the time to plant spring blooming bulbs for a riot of color in the spring. We have a large selection of all your favorites, plus a few unique and unusual varieties that we think you'll really enjoy!



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25% off!

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